are currently active in J and K, a significant proportion of which are estimated to be foreign mercenaries.

Ban on SIMI

375. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has banned the SIMI;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of cases registered, the number of arrests made of SIMI members and other details before the ban was announced; and

(d) the number of incidents that took place, loss of lives and other details thereof in different States in the wake of the ban?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) has been found indulging in activities which are prejudicial to the security of the country and have the potential of disturbing peace and communal harmony and disrupting the secular fabric of the country. More than hundred cases have been registered against the activists of this organization under the provisions of various Acts by the Government of different States and several SIMI activists have been arrested. In view of this, the Central Government have declared this organization as an unlawful association under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967) by a Notification dated 27.9.2001.

In the wake of ban imposed on SIMI no serious incidents have been reported except the incidents in Lucknow city in Uttar Pradesh in which 4 lives were lost.

Cease-fire in J and K during Ramzan

376. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will announce cease-fire during this "Ramzan" at Jammu and Kashmir;